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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/629,669

Applicant: SEKIGUCHI et al.

Filed: July 30, 2003

TC/AU: 2851

Examiner: A. Sever

Docket No.: 402728

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop RCE
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated January 12, 2005, Applicants petition for a one-month extension of time, submit the requisite fee therefore, and request that the referenced patent application be amended as shown below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.